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(54) Title: HIGH LEVEL EXPRESSION OF PROTEINS			
(57) Abstract			
<p>The invention features a synthetic gene encoding a protein normally expressed in a mammalian cell or eukaryotic cell wherein at least one non-preferred or less preferred codon in the natural gene encoding the mammalian protein has been replaced by a preferred codon encoding the same amino acid.</p>		1 GAATTCACGC GTAAGCTTGC CGCCACCATG GTGAGCAAGG GCGAGGAGCT	
		51 GTTCACCGGG GTGGTGCCCA TCCTGGTCGA GCTGGACGGC GACGTGAACG	
		101 GCCACAAGTT CAGCGTGTCC GCGGAGGGCG AGGGCGATGC CACCTACGGC	
		151 AAGCTGACCC TGAAGTTCAT CTGCACCACC GGCAAGCTGC CCGTGCCCTG	
		201 GCCCACCCCTC GTGACCACCT TCAGCTACCG CGTCCAGTGC TTCAGCCGCT	
		251 ACCCCGACCA CATGAAGCAG CAOGACTTCT TCAAGTCCGC CATGCCCGAA	
		301 GGCTACGTCC AGGAGCGCAC CATCTTCTTC AAGGACGACG GCAACTACAA	
		351 GACCCGCGCC GAGGTGAAGT TCGAGGGCGA CACCCTGGTG AACCGCATCG	
		401 AGCTGAAGGG CATCGACTTC AAGGAGGACG GCAACATCCT GGGGCACAAG	
		451 CTGGAGTACA ACTACAACAG CCACAACGTC TATATCATGG CCGACAAGCA	
		501 GAAGAACGGC ATCAAGGTGA ACTTCAAGAT CCGCCACAAC ATCGAGGACG	
		551 GCAGCGTGCA GCTCGCCGAC CACTACCAGC AGAACACCCC CATCGGGGAC	
		601 GGCCCCGTGC TGCTGCCCGA CAACCACTAC CTGAGCACCC AGTCCGCCCT	
		651 GAGCAAAGAC CCCAAGGACA AGCGCGATCA CATGGTCCTG CTGGAGTTCC	
		701 TGACCGCCGC CGGGATCACT CACGGCATGG ACGAGCTGTA CAAGTAAAGC	
751 GGCCGCGGAT CC (SEQ ID NO: 40)			

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What is claimed is:

1. A synthetic gene encoding a protein normally expressed in a eukaryotic cell wherein at least one non-preferred or less preferred codon in the natural gene
5 encoding said protein has been replaced by a preferred codon encoding the same amino acid.

2. The synthetic gene of claim 1 wherein said synthetic gene is capable of expressing said eukaryotic protein at a level which is at least 110% of that
10 expressed by said natural gene in an in vitro mammalian cell culture system under identical conditions.

3. The synthetic gene of claim 1 wherein said synthetic gene is capable of expressing said eukaryotic protein at a level which is at least 150% of that
15 expressed by said natural gene in an in vitro cell culture system under identical conditions.

4. The synthetic gene of claim 1 wherein said synthetic gene is capable of expressing said eukaryotic protein at a level which is at least 200% of that
20 expressed by said natural gene in an in vitro cell culture system under identical conditions.

5. The synthetic gene of claim 1 wherein said synthetic gene is capable of expressing said eukaryotic protein at a level which is at least 500% of that
25 expressed by said natural gene in an in vitro cell culture system under identical conditions.

6. The synthetic gene of claim 1 wherein said synthetic gene is capable of expressing said eukaryotic protein at a level which is at least ten times that

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expressed by said natural gene in an in vitro cell culture system under identical conditions.

7. The synthetic gene of claim 1 wherein at least 10% of the codons in said natural gene are non-preferred
5 codons.

8. The synthetic gene of claim 8 wherein at least 50% of the codons in said natural gene are non-preferred codons.

9. The synthetic gene of claim 1 wherein at least
10 50% of the non-preferred codons and less preferred codons present in said natural gene have been replaced by preferred codons.

10. The synthetic gene of claim 1 wherein at least 90% of the non-preferred codons and less preferred
15 codons present in said natural gene have been replaced by preferred codons.

11. The synthetic gene of claim 1 wherein said protein is green fluorescent protein.

12. A method for preparing a synthetic gene
20 encoding a protein normally expressed by eukaryotic cells, comprising identifying non-preferred and less-preferred codons in the natural gene encoding said protein and replacing one or more of said non-preferred and less-preferred codons with a preferred codon encoding
25 the same amino acid as the replaced codon.

Synqpl20mn

1 CTGAGATCC ATTGTGCTCT AAAGGAGATA CCGGCCAGA CACCCTCACC
51 TGGGTGCCC AGCTGCCAG GGTAGGCAA GAGAAGGCCA GAAACCATGC
101 CCATGGGCTC TGTCAACCG CTGGCCACCT TGTACCTGCT GGGGATGCTG
151 GTGCTTCCG TGTAGCCAC CGAGAAGCTG TGGGTGACCG TGTACTACCG
201 CGTGGCCGTG TGGAAAGGAG CCACCACCAC CCGTTCTTCG GCCAGCGACG
251 CCAAGGCGTA CACACCGAG GTGCACAAAG TGTGGGCCAC CCAGGCGTGC
301 GTGCCACCGC ACCCAACCC CCAGGAGGTG GAGCTCTGTA ACCTGACCGA
351 GAACTTCAAC ATGTGGAAGA ACAACATGCT GGAGCAGATG CATGAGGACA
401 TCATCAGCCT GTGGGACCAG AGCTTGAAGC CCGCTGTGAA GGTGACCCCG
451 CTGTGCTGTA (CTGAACTG CACCGACCTG AGGAACACCA CCAACACCAA
501 CAACAGCACC GCAACAACA ACAGCAACAG CGAGGGCACC ATCAAGGGCG
551 GCGAGATGAA CAACTCCAGC TTCAACATCA CCACCAGCAT CCGCGACAAG
601 ATGCAGAAGG AGTACGCCCT GCTGTACAAG CTGGATATCG TGAGCATCGA
651 CAACGACAGC ACCAGCTACC GCCTGATCTC CTGCAACACC AGCGTGATCA
701 CCCAGGCCTG GCGCAAGATC AGCTTCGAGC CCATCCCCAT CCACTACTGC
751 GCGCCCGCCG GCTTCGCCAT CCGAAGTGC AACGACAAGA AGTTCAGCGG
801 CAAGGGCAGC TCAAGAAGC TGAGCACCTG GCAGTGCACC CACGGCATCC
851 GCGCGGTGCT GAGCACCCAG CTCTGTCTGA ACGGCAGCCT GCGCGAGGAG
901 GAGGTGCTGA TCCGACCGA GAATTCAAC GACAACGCCA AGACCATCAT
951 CCGTGCACCTG AATGAGAGCG TGCAGATCAA CTGCACGCGT CCCAACTACA
1001 ACAAGCGCAA GCGCATCCAC ATCGGCCCCG GCGCGGCTT CTACACCACC
1051 AAGAACATCA TCGGCACCAT CCGCCAGGCC CACTGCAACA TCTCTAGAGC
1101 CAAGTGGAA CACACCTTGC GCCAGATCGT GAGCAAGCTG AAGGAGCAGT
1151 TCAAGAACA GACCATCTG TTCAACCAGA GCAGCGGCGG CGACCCCGAG
1201 ATCTGATGC ACAGCTTCAA CTGCGGCGGC GAATTCTTCT ACTGCAACAC
1251 CAGCCCCCTG TTCAACAGCA CCGGAACCG CAACAACACC TGGAAACAACA
1301 CCACCGGCGC CAACAACAAT ATTACCTTC AGTGCAAGAT CAAGCAGATC
1351 ATCAACATGT CGCAGGAGGT GCGCAAGGCC ATGTACGCCC CCCCCATCGA
1401 GGGCCAGATC CGGTGCAGCA GCAACATCAC CGGTCTGCTG CTGACCCCGG
1451 ACGCGCGCAA GCACACCGAC ACCAACGACA CCGAAATCTT CCGCCCCCGG

FIG 1
(SHEET 1 OF 4)

1501 GGGGGCGACA TCGCGGACAA CTGGAGATCT GAGCTGTACA AGTACAAGGT
1551 GGTGACGATC GAGCCCTGG GCGTGGCCCC CACCAAGGCC AAGCGCCGCG
1601 TCGTGCAGCG CAGGAAGCGC TAAAGCGGCC GC (SEQ ID NO:34)

Syn gpl60mm

1 ACCGAGAAGC TGTGGGTGAC GTGTACTAC GGGGTGAGCG TGTGGAAGGA
51 GGGCACCACC ACCGTGTTCT GGGCAGCGA GGGCAAGCG TACGACACCG
101 AUSTGACAA GTGTGGGCG ACCCAGGCT GGTGCGCCAC CGACCCCAAC
151 GGGCAGGAGG TGGAGCTCTT GAACCTGAC GAGAATTCTA ACATGTGGAA
201 GAACAACATG CTGGAGCAGA TGCATGAGGA CATCATCAGC GTGTGGGACC
251 AGAGCTTGAA GGGCTGCTG AAGCTGACCG GGTGTGCGT GACCTGCAAC
301 TGCACCGAGC TTAGGAACAC CACCAACACC AACAACAGCA GGGCCACAA
351 CAACACCAAC AGCGAGGGCA CCATCAAGGG CGGCGAGATG AAGAATGCA
401 GTTTCACCAT CACCAACAGC ATCCCGGACA AGATCCAGAA GGAATACGGC
451 GTGTGTGACA AGCTGCATAT GTTGAGCATC CACAACGACA GCAACAGCTA
501 GGGGTGATG TGTGCAACA CCAAGCTGAT CAGCGAGGGC TGGGCAAGA
551 TCAAGTTGCA GGGCATGCG ATGCACTACT GGGGGGCGC GGGGTGCGC
601 ATCTGTAACT GCAACGACA GAAGTTGAGC GCGAAGGGCA GTTGCAAGAA
651 GTTGACGACC GTGAGTGCA CCAACGGAT GGGGGGCGT GTGAGTACCG
701 ACCTGTGCTT GAAGGGGAGC GTGGCGAGG AGGAGGTGTT GATGCGCAGC
751 GAGAATTCTA CCGACAACCG CAAGACCATC ATCTGCGAGC TGAATGAGAG
801 GTTGACAGATC AACTGCACCG GTGCAACTA CAACAAGCGC AAGCGCATCC
851 ACATCGGCGC GGGGGGCGC TTCTACACCA CCAAGAACAT CATCGGCACC
901 ATCGGCGAGC CCACTGCAA CATCTTAGA GCGAAGTGA AGGACACCTT
951 GGGCGAGATC GTGAGCAAGC TGAAGGAGCA GTTCAGAAC AACACCATCC
1001 TGTTCACCA GAGCAGCGCG GGGACCGCG AGATCGTGT CCACAGCTTC
1051 AACTGCGGCG GCGAATTCTT CTACTGCAAC ACCAGCGCGC TGTTCACAG
1101 CACCTGGAAC GCGAACAACA GTTGAACAA CACCAAGGCG AGCAACAACA
1151 ATATTACCTT CCAGTGCAAG ATCAAGGCA TCATCAACAT GTGGCAGGAG
1201 GTGGGCAAGC CCACTACCG GGGGGGCTG GAGGGGCGA TGGGTGCGC
1251 CAGCAACATC ACCGTCTGCG TGTGACCGC CGACGGCGCG AAGGACACCG
1301 ACACCAAGCA CAGGAAATC TTGGGGCGC GGGGGGCGA CATGCGCGAC
1351 AATGCGAGT CTGAGCTGTA CAAGTACAAG GTGGTGACGA TCGAGCGCTT
1401 GGGGTGCGC CCAACCAAGC TCAAGGCGC GTGTGTGCG CCGGAGAAGC

1451 GGGCCGCCAT CCGCCGCCCTG TTCTGGGCT TCTGGGGGC GCGGGCAGC
1501 ACCATGGGGG CCGCCAGCGT GACCTGACC GTGCAGGCC GCTGCTCT
1551 GAGCGGCATC GTGCAGCAGC AGAACAACTT CCTCCGCGCC ATCGAGGCC
1601 AGCAGCATAT GTTCAGCTC ACCGTGTGG GCATCAAGCA GCTCCAGGCC
1651 CCGCTGCTGG CCGTGGAGCG CTACCTGAAG GACCAGCAGC TCTGGGCTT
1701 CCGGGGCTGC TCGGCCAAGC TGATCTGCAC CACACCGTA CCTGGAACG
1751 CCTCCTGGAG CAACAAGAGC CTGGACGACA TCTGGAACAA CATGACCTGG
1801 ATGCAGTGGG AGCCGAGAT CGATAACTAC ACCAGCCTGA TCTACAGCTT
1851 GCTGGAGAAAG AGCCAGACCC AGCAGGAGAA GAACGAGCAG GAGCTGCTGG
1901 AGCTGGACAA CTGGCGAGC CTGTGGAAT GTTTCGACAT CACCAACTGG
1951 CTGTGGTACA TAAAAATCTT CATCATGATT GTGGCGGCC TGGTGGGCTT
2001 CCGCATCTTG TCGCCCTTC TGAGCATCTT GAACCGCTG CCGCAGGCTT
2051 ACAGCCCCCT GAGCTTCAG ACCCGGCCC CCGTCCCGC CGGGCCCCGAC
2101 CCGCCCCAGG CATCGAGGA GGAGGGCGCC GAGCGCGACC GCGACACCAG
2151 CCGCAGGCTC GTCCAGGCT TCTGGCGAT CATCTGGTC GACCTCCGA
2201 GCTGTCTCT GTTCAGCTAC CACCACCGC AGCTGCTGT CATCGCCGC
2251 CGCATCTGG AACTCTAGG CCGCCGCGC TGGGAGGTGC TGAAGTACTG
2301 CTGGAACCTC CTCAGTATT GGAGCCAGGA GCTGAAGTC AGCGCGTGA
2351 GCTGCTGAA CGCCACCGC ATCGCCGTG CCGAGGGCAC CGACCGCTG
2401 ATCGAGGTG TCCAGAGGC CGGGAGGGC ATCTGCACA TCCCAACCG
2451 CATCCCGAG AGGCTCGAGA GGGCGCTCT G (SEQ ID NO:35)

FIG. 1
(SHEET 4 OF 4)

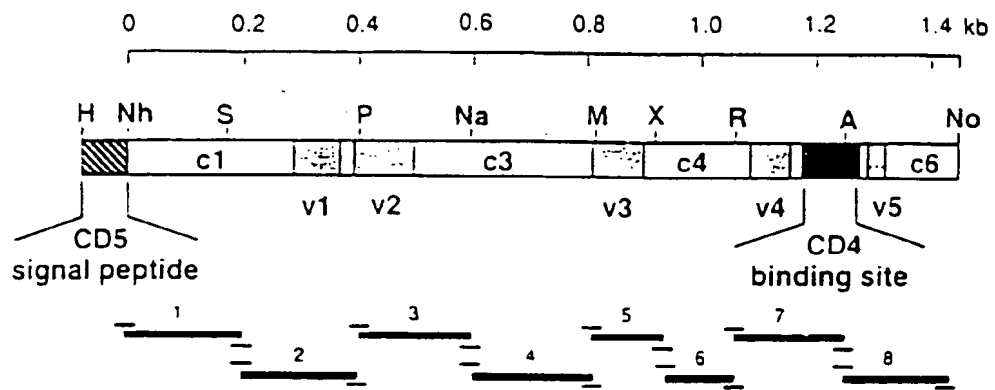


FIGURE 2

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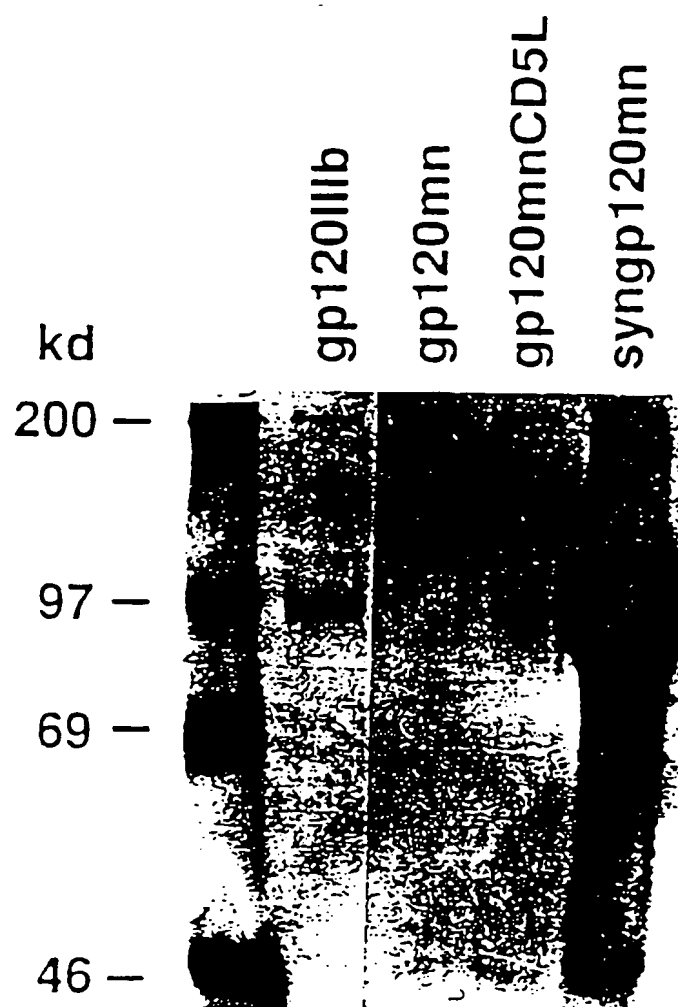


FIGURE 3

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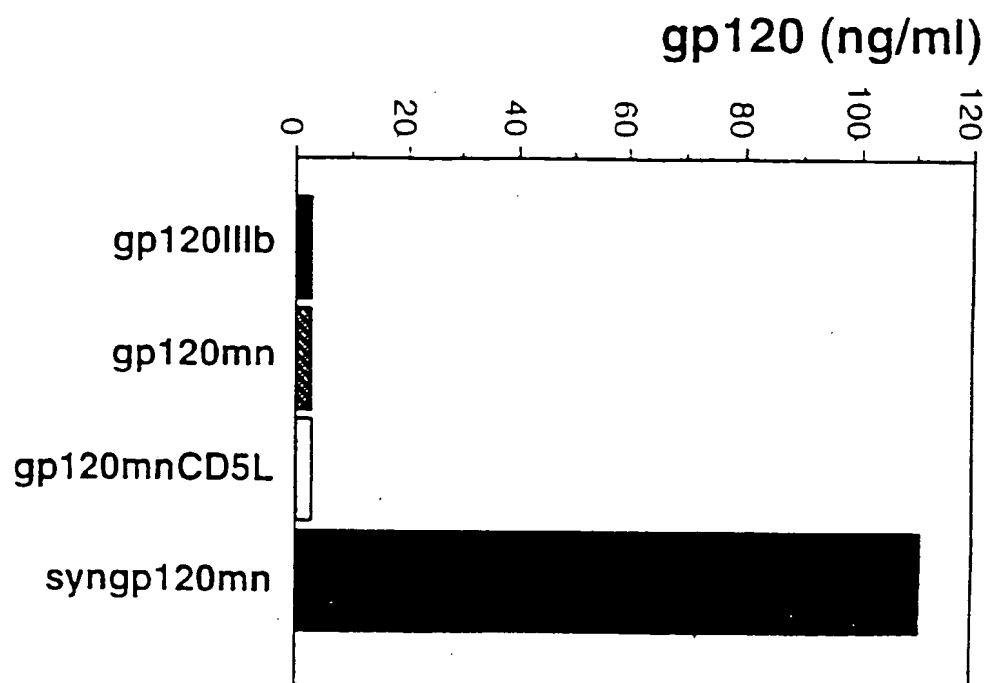


FIGURE 4

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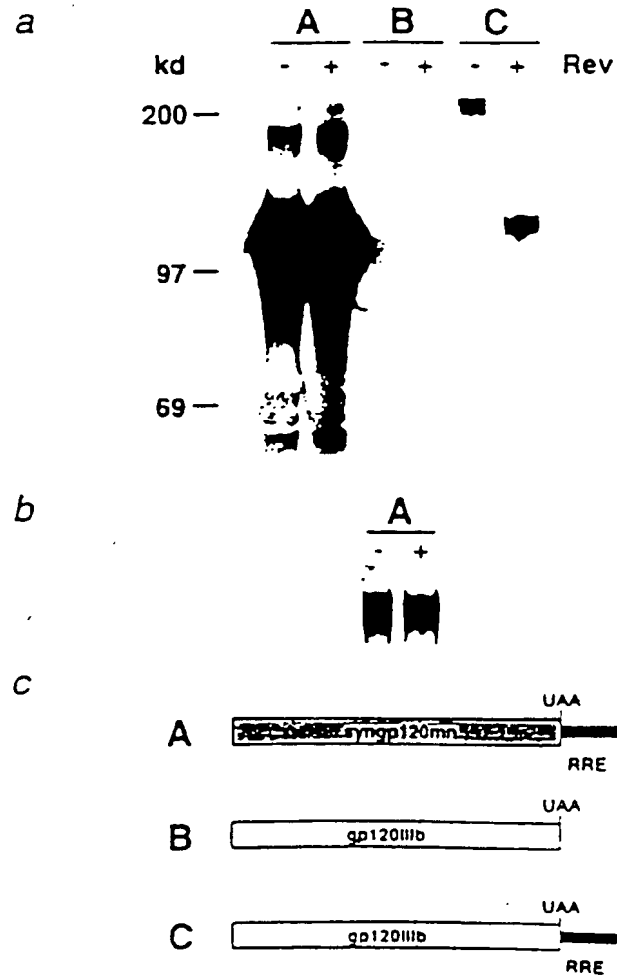


FIGURE 5

(SEQ ID NO:36)	env	M N P V I S I T L L L S V L Q M S R G Q
(SEQ ID NO:37)	wc	→atg aac cca gtc atc agc atc act ctc ctg ctt tca gtc ttg cag atg tcc cga gga cag
	env	R V I S L T A C L V N Q N I R L D C R H
	wc	aga gta ata agt tta aca gca tgt tta gta aat caa aat ttg aga tta gat tgt aga cat agg gtg atc agc ctg aca gcc tgc tgc ctg gtg aa cag aac ctt cga ctg gac tgc cgt cat
	env	E N N T N L P I Q H E F S L T R E K K K
	wc	gaa aat aat aca cct ttg cca ata caa cat gaa ttt tca tta acg cgt gaa aaa aaa aaa gag aat aac acc aac ttg ccc atc cag cat gag ttc agc ctg acc cga gag aag aag aag
	env	H V L S G T L G V P E H T Y R S R V N L
	wc	cat gta tta agt gga aca tta gga gta cca gaa cat aca tat aga agt aga gta aat ttg cac gtg ctg tca ggc acc ctg ggg gtt ccc gag cac act tac cgc tcc cgc gtc aac ctt
	env	F S D R F I K V L T L A N F T T K D E G
	wc	ttt agt gat aga ttc ata aaa gta tta aca tta gca aat ttt aca aca aaa gat gaa gga ttc agt gac cgc ttt atc aag gtc ctt act cta gcc aac ttc acc acc aag gat gag ggc
	env	D Y M C E L R V S G Q N P T S S N K T I
	wc	gat tac atg tgt gag ctc aga gta agt gga caa aat cca aca agt agt aat aaa aca ata gac tac atg tgt gaa ctt cga gtc tgc ggc cag aat ccc aca agc tcc aat aaa act atc
	env	N V I R D K L V K C G I S L L V Q N T
	wc	aat gta ata aga gat aaa tta gta aaa tgt gga gga ata agt tta tta gta caa aat aca aat glg atc aga gac aag ctg gtc aag tgt ggt ggc ata agc ctg ctg gtt caa aac act
	env	S W L L L L L L L S L S F L Q A T D F I S
	wc	agt tgg tta tta tta tta tta agt tta agt ttt tta caa gca aca gat ttt ata agt ccc tgg ctg ctg ctg ctc ctc tcc tcc ctc ctc caa gcc acg gac ttc att tct
	env	L *
	wc	tta tga ctg tga

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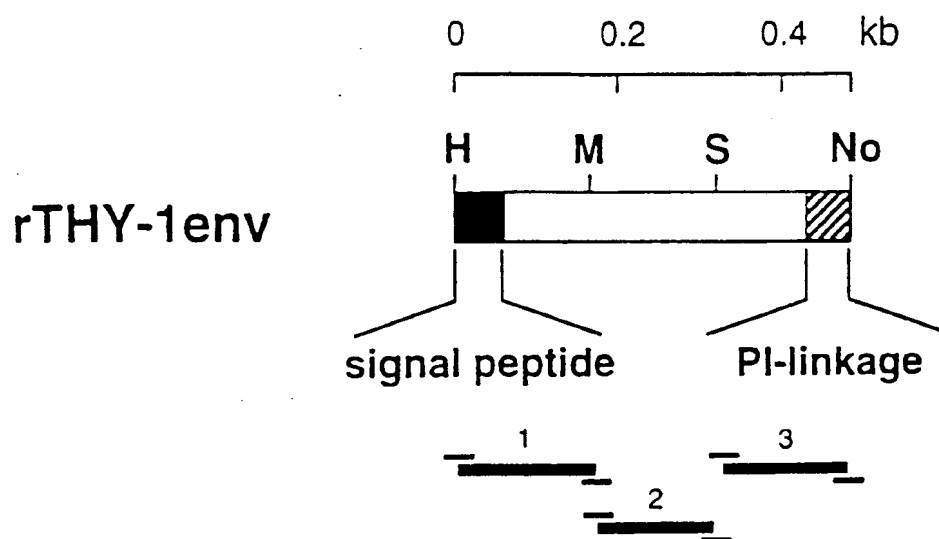


FIGURE 7

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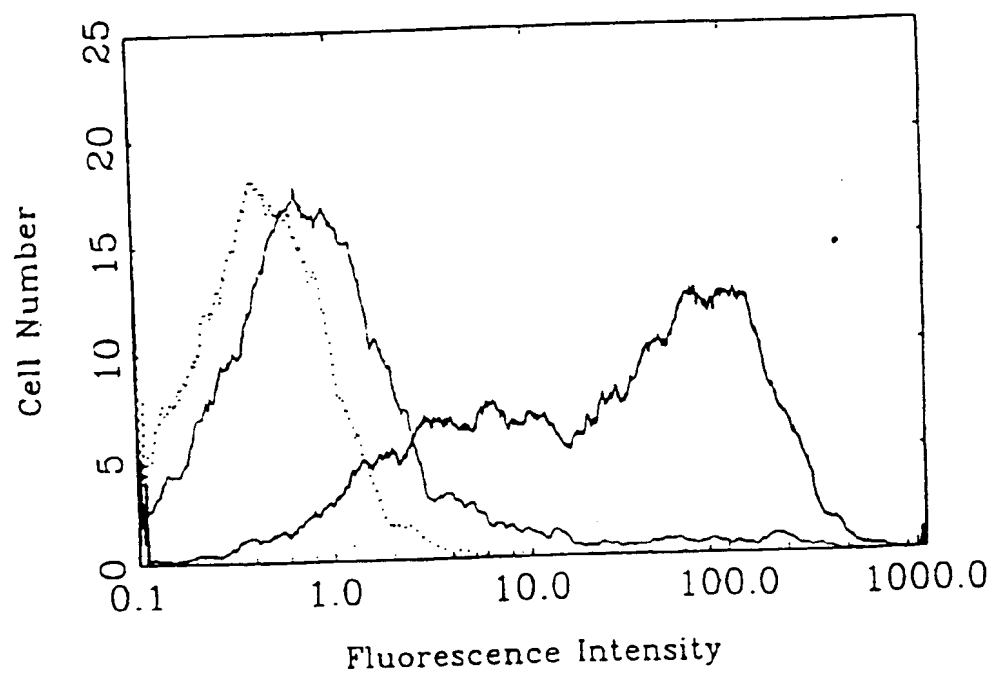


FIGURE 8

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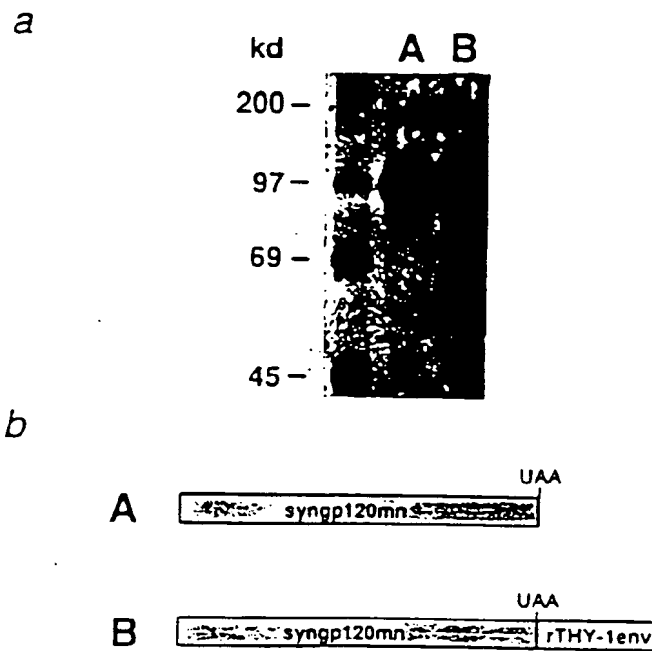
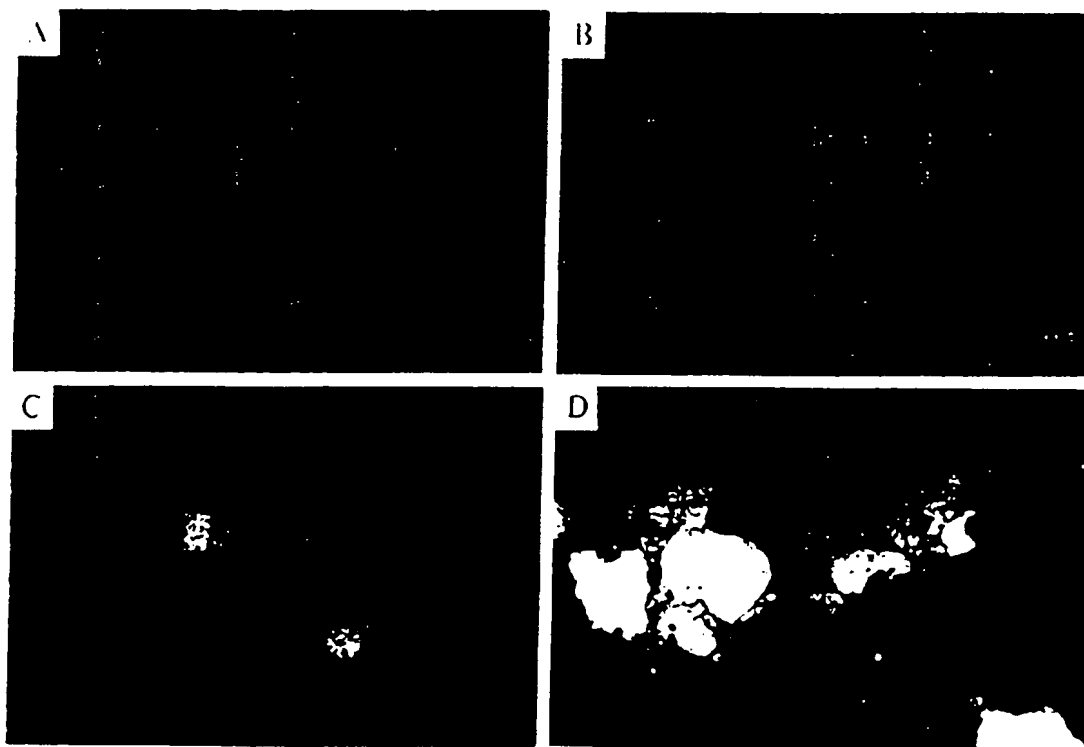


FIGURE 9

FIG. 10



1 GAATTCACGC GTAAGCTTGC CGCCACCATG GTGAGCAAGG GCGAGGAGCT
51 GTTCACCGGG GTGGTGCCCA TCCTGGTCGA GCTGGACGGC GACGTGAACG
101 GCCACAAGTT CAGCGTGTCC GGCGAGGGCG AGGGCGATGC CACCTACGGC
151 AAGCTGACCC TGAAGTTCAT CTGCACCACC GGCAAGCTGC CCGTGCCCTG
201 GCCCACCCTC GTGACCACCT TCAGCTACGG CGTGCAGTGC TTCAGCCGCT
251 ACCCCGACCA CATGAAGCAG CACGACTTCT TCAAGTCCGC CATGCCCCGAA
301 GGCTACGTCC AGGAGCGCAC CATCTTCTTC AAGGACGACG GCAACTACAA
351 GACCCGCGCC GAGGTGAAGT TCGAGGGCGA CACCCTGGTG AACC GCATCG
401 AGCTGAAGGG CATCGACTTC AAGGAGGACG GCAACATCCT GGGGCACAAG
451 CTGGAGTACA ACTACAACAG CCACAACGTC TATATCATGG CCGACAAGCA
501 GAAGAACGGC ATCAAGGTGA ACTTCAAGAT CCGCCACAAC ATCGAGGACG
551 GCAGCGTGCA GCTCGCCGAC CACTACCAGC AGAACACCCC CATCGGCGAC
601 GGCCCCGTGC TGCTGCCCCG CAACCACTAC CTGAGCACCC AGTCCGCCCT
651 GAGCAAAGAC CCCAACGAGA AGCGCGATCA CATGGTCCTG CTGGAGTTG
701 TGACCGCCGC CGGGATCACT CACGGCATGG ACGAGCTGTA CAAGTAAAGC
751 GGCCGCGGAT CC (SEQ ID NO: 40)

FIG. 11

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US96/15088

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER		
IPC(6) : C07H 21/00, 21/04 US CL : 536/23.1, 23.5 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC		
B. FIELDS SEARCHED		
Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) U.S. : 536/23.1, 23.5		
Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched		
Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used) Dialog, Medline, Biosis, Embase, Scisearch, WPIDS, APS		
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	HOLLER et al. HIV1 Integrase Expressed in Escherichia coli From a Synthetic Gene. Gene. 1993, Vol.136, pages 323-328, especially pages 323-327.	1-10, 12
X	SCORER et al. The Intracellular Production and Secretion of HIV-1 Envelope Protein in the Methylophilic Yeast Pichia pastoris. Gene. 1993, Vol.136, pages 111-119, especially pages 111-118.	1-10, 12
X	HERNAN et al. Human Hemoglobin Expression in Escherichia coli: Importance of Optimal Codon Usage. Biochemistry. 1992, Vol.31, pages 8619-8628, especially pages 8619-8627.	1-10, 12
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. <input type="checkbox"/> See patent family annex.		
* Special categories of cited documents:	*T later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention *A document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance *E earlier document published on or after the international filing date *L document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) *O document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means *P document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed *X document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone *Y document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art *Z document member of the same patent family	
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US96/15088

C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X ---- Y	WILLIAMS et al. Design, Synthesis and Expression of a Human Interleukin-2 Gene Incorporating the Codon Usage Bias Found in Highly Expressed Escherichia coli Genes. Nucleic Acids Research. 1988, Vol.16, No.22, pages 10453-10467, especially pages 10453-10466.	1-10, 12 ---- 11
X	RANGWALA et al. High-Level Production of Active HIV-1 Protease In Escherichia coli. Gene. 1992, Vol.122, pages 263-269, especially pages 263-268.	1-10, 12
P, X	US 5,464,774 A (BAIRD et al.) 07 November 1995 (07/11/95), see entire document, especially insert at top of columns 13 and 14; column 7, lines 27-51.	1-10, 12
Y	INOUE et al. Acquirea Green Fluorescent Protein Expression of the Gene and Fluorescence Characteristics of the Recombinant Protein. FEBS Letters. 1994, Vol.341, pages 277-280, especially pages 277-279.	11